



# News Release

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## **Franklin County: Basin City residents urged to boil their tap water**

**OLYMPIA** — A boil-water advisory has been issued to customers of the Basin City Water-Sewer District water system because potentially harmful bacteria have been detected in the water.

*E. coli* bacteria were found Thursday during routine water quality monitoring. Because of that finding, the utility took five more samples throughout the water distribution system. Two of the samples were good, but total coliform bacteria were detected in the other three. Total coliform bacteria commonly are found in the natural environment. While this type of bacteria is not harmful, its presence means that contamination is getting into the water system.

The state Department of Health is working closely with the utility to try to find the source of contamination and fix it.

Basin City is about five miles west of Mesa in Franklin County. The water system serves about 850 people during the summer.

Residents are encouraged to boil tap water used for drinking, brushing teeth, food preparation, making ice, and washing dishes. Tap water should be brought to a rolling boil for one minute and allowed to cool before using.

Customers will be notified when the advisory ends. Meanwhile, customers who have questions about their water can call the utility at 509-531-6308.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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